

Screening for Adult Abuse and Neglect: Suggestions for Health Professionals

The American Medical Association's publication "*Diagnostic and Treatment Guidelines on Adult Abuse and Neglect*" suggests that physicians should incorporate routine questions related to adult abuse and neglect into their daily practice. The protocol should include specific questions for the patient. Suggested questions include:

- ☐ Has anyone at home ever hurt you?
- ☐ Has anyone ever touched you without your consent?
- ☐ Has anyone taken anything that was yours without asking?
- ☐ Has anyone ever threatened you?
- ☐ Have you ever signed any documents that you didn't understand or you didn't want to sign?
- ☐ Are you afraid of anyone at home?
- ☐ Are you alone a lot?
- ☐ Has anyone ever failed to help you take care of yourself when you needed help?

**To report adult abuse, neglect or exploitation call
your local department of social services or the 24
hour toll-free hotline at 888-832-3858**